

09/647489

PATENT  
216-415P

422 Rec'd PCT/PTO 29 SEP 2000

## IN THE U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: SAITO, Hidetoshi et al.

Int'l. Appl. No.: PCT/JP99/01477

Appl. No.: New Group:

Filed: September 29, 2000 Examiner:

For: FUNCTIONAL ELEMENT FOR USE IN AN  
ELECTRIC, AN ELECTRONIC OR AN  
OPTICAL DEVICE AND METHOD FOR  
PRODUCING THE SAME

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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**BOX PATENT APPLICATION**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

September 29, 2000

Sir:

The following Preliminary Amendments and Remarks are respectfully submitted in connection with the above-identified application.

AMENDMENTSIN THE ABSTRACT:

Please amend the Abstract as follows:

Page 97: Lines 9 to 13, change "wherein the needles have a specific weighted average circle-based diameter and a specific weighted average aspect ratio, and wherein the needles are present at a specific density at the upper surface of the substrate" to

--wherein the needles have a weighted average circle-based diameter of from 0.01 to 10,000  $\mu\text{m}$  and a weighted average aspect ratio of 0.1 or more, and wherein the needles are present at a density of from 0.01 to 10,000 needles per unit area having a size of 10  $\mu\text{m}$  x 10  $\mu\text{m}$  at the upper surface of the substrate--

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